**NSC Simulation Agency Description**

1. **Agency for International Development (USAID)**

USAID was founded in 1961 to distribute assistance, or foreign aid, from the U.S. government to other countries. Today the organization administers a wide variety of assistance programs intended to help countries reduce poverty, establish and strengthen democratic institutions, improve education and health, address the effects of climate change, and promote gender equality, among many other objectives. The agency often works in post crisis and post conflict areas to deliver emergency assistance and encourage economic opportunity and peace.

*The USAID administrator’s goals are to*

* advise the president on issues involving economic, social, and political development and USAID’s efforts to advance related objectives; and
* describe the potential role and contributions of USAID, and foreign assistance more broadly, as part of the potential U.S. policy response.

*The USAID’s Powers are:*

* Offer assistance and aid in a variety of crisis situations (have their own budget separate from Treasury Dept.)
* Has a budget of $28 million a year (have to offer aid to countries around the globe)
1. **State Department**

The Department of State maintains the U.S. diplomatic presence around the world, conducting foreign relations and using an on-the-ground perspective to generate country-specific knowledge. As head of the department, the secretary draws on this knowledge to present an authoritative view of the United States’ bilateral relationships, the relationships between foreign countries, and the behavior and interests of foreign governments.

*The state department’s goals are to*

* serve as the president’s principal foreign policy advisor; and
* analyze how policy options will affect the interests, reputation, and relationships of the United States.

*The state department’s Powers are:*

* Negotiate diplomatic solutions to crises
* Negotiates treaties and trade deals
* Able to provide economic assistance/aid through their foreign assistance budget
* Communicates with leaders around the world
1. **Department of the Treasury**

The Department of the Treasury carries out policy on issues related to the U.S. and global economies and financial systems. The secretary of the treasury, as head of this department, serves as one of the president’s chief economic advisors and is responsible for addressing a range of economic concerns, including growth, trade and investment, and the position of the U.S. dollar. The Treasury’s ten bureaus, which include the U.S. Mint and the Internal Revenue Service, do much of the department’s work, which ranges from tax collection to printing currency to executing economic sanctions.

*The Dept. of Treasury’s goals are to*

* ensure that the president receives the best possible advice from all relevant departments and agencies on the economic dimensions of the issue under discussion; and
* articulate how the economic dimensions of any policy options could be effectively implemented to further the president’s goals.

*The Dept. of Treasury’s Powers are:*

* Implement sanctions on states, individuals, and companies
* Provide aid/assistance
* Fund national security operations
1. **National Security Advisor**

One of the president’s top aides, the national security advisor (NSA) sits at the heart of the NSC structure. He or she manages the NSC staff and chairs the Principals Committee (PC). The NSA is the principal advisor to POTUS on national security matters. The NSA has direct access to the president and is not expected to represent the agenda of any specific department, he or she is in a unique position to drive strategic and tactical foreign policy decisions, manage the interagency actors who have a stake in an issue, and mitigate conflict throughout the decision-making process.

*The NSA’s goals are to*

* to offer advice to the president and to coordinate and manage policymaking
* ensuring that the President has all the necessary information, that a full range of policy options have been identified, that the prospects and risks of each option have been evaluated, that legal and funding considerations have been addressed, that potential difficulties in implementation have been identified, and that all NSC principals have been included in the policy development and recommendation process

*The NSA’s Powers are (under Trump):*

* Chief adviser to POTUS on matters of national security
* Order military air strikes (drones)
* Order special operations deployments to crisis areas
1. **Director of National Intelligence**

The U.S. intelligence community consists of seventeen agencies and organizations that gather and analyze intelligence to help policymakers formulate and implement U.S. foreign policy. The director of national intelligence oversees this network of agencies. He or she focuses on providing the latest relevant information to National Security Council (NSC) members and articulating the capabilities and interests of the intelligence community.

*The director of national intelligence’s goals are to*

* Provide complete, accurate, and up-to-date information to the NSC on the situation under discussion; and
* Serve as the principal advisor to the president and the NSC on intelligence matters.

*The director of national intelligence’s powers are:*

* Order special operations deployments and drone strikes
* Order cyber warfare attacks
* Hack foreign governments information systems
1. **Homeland Security**

Created after September 11, 2001, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) focuses on such issues as terrorism prevention, border security and immigration, disaster response, and cybersecurity. Agencies such as U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the U.S. Secret Service, and the Transportation Security Administration are part of this department. The secretary must help the president and other National Security Council (NSC) members understand any risks to the United States and its citizens that may arise from the situation and possible policy responses.

*The secretary of homeland security’s goals are to*

* advise the president on the homeland security dimensions of crises and potential policy responses, including any threats or implications for U.S. border security; and
* ensure the implementation of steps to protect the country and manage any security risks arising from the issue under consideration.

*The secretary of homeland security’s powers are:*

* Order the closure of the U.S. border
* Ground air transportation in the U.S.
* Deploy FEMA officials for crisis recovery
1. **Representative to the UN**

The role of the U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations (UN) is to advance U.S. foreign policy interests in the bodies and forums of the UN system. Reporting to the secretary of state, the permanent representative helps formulate and articulate the U.S. position on all political and security matters under discussion at the UN. At National Security Council (NSC) meetings, he or she outlines policy steps available to the United States at the UN and advises NSC participants on the positions and actions of other UN member states.

*The U.S. permanent representative to the UN’s goals are to*

* advise the president and secretary of state on the diplomatic actions the United States can or should take at the UN; and
* promote the United States’ interests and values at the UN.

*The U.S. permanent representative to the UN’s powers are:*

* Negotiate diplomatic solutions through the U.N.
* Negotiate security council solutions through the U.N.
* Veto any U.N. security council measure that threatens the interest of the U.S.